

### **Remarks**

By this response, claims 33-37, 39 and 58 have been canceled, claims 38, 54, 57, 66 and 69 have been amended and new claims 71-97 have been added. Claims 38, 40-57, and 59-97 are pending in this application.

In the Office Action dated January 29, 2004, the examiner acknowledged that claims 69 and 70 are allowable and that dependent claims 39, 40, 58 and 59 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 39 and 40 depend from independent claim 38, while claims 58 and 59 depend from independent claim 57.

Independent claim 38 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 39 and claim 39 has been canceled. Claim 38, thus, includes all of the limitations of the allowable subject matter that was recited in dependent claim 39.

Independent claim 57 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 58 and claim 58 has been canceled. Accordingly, claim 57 includes all of the limitations of the allowable subject matter that was recited in dependent claim 58.

New independent claim 73 embraces the subject matter of claim 40 as rewritten in independent form. Claim 73, accordingly, includes all of the limitations of the allowable subject matter that was recited in dependent claim 40. New dependent claims 74-88 are similar to those claims that depend from claim 38.

New independent claim 89 embraces the subject matter of claim 59 as rewritten in independent form. Thus, claim 89 includes all of the limitations of the allowable subject matter that was recited in dependent claim 59. New dependent claims 90-97 are similar to those claims that depend from claim 57.

Additionally, independent claim 69 has been amended to correct a minor typographical error.

While certain dependent claims had been withdrawn from further consideration, these claims depend from allowable generic claims and, therefore, are entitled to consideration.

### **Conclusion**

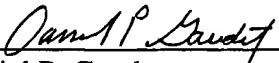
In view of the amendments and remarks that are set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any over-payments to Deposit Account No. 08-0219 that may be due in connection with the filing of this response.

If the Examiner has any questions in regard to this Response, or any other issue in this case, please call the below signed representative at (617) 526-6000.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 29, 2004

  
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